



### **SIXTH DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS**

**(Sta. 60)**

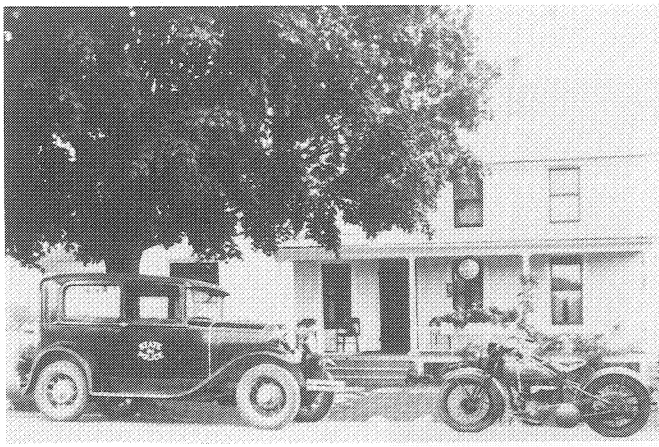
588 3 Mile Road, Grand Rapids, 49504

Grand Rapids served as one of the earliest "district" headquarters for the newly formed Michigan State Constabulary in 1917.

Soon after a mounted troop had quelled labor unrest at munitions plants in Muskegon, troop headquarters for western Michigan was established in a rented house on Robinson Road, S.E., in Grand Rapids. After World War I ended, the department (reorganized as the Michigan State Police) maintained headquarters in Grand Rapids for the Second Troop under Capt. Ralph G. Strope. The Grand Rapids Headquarters was abandoned when another departmental reorganization ended the troop system in 1921.

When Commissioner Oscar G. Olander established the current district system in 1931, the Grand Haven Post was temporarily designated as Sixth District Headquarters under Capt. Archie Downing (a veteran of the original State Constabulary) until a more suitable location could be found. Captain Downing, Cpl. Stanley Piechowiak, and five troopers moved into a leased house in Rockford (the former Earl Perry residence at US-131 and Greenville Road) on February 15, 1932. Both Sixth District Headquarters and the Rockford Post moved into a new brick WPA barracks in 1936.

Growing pains prompted district headquarters to move into the state office building in downtown Grand Rapids in 1979. Competition for office space continued, and Sixth District Headquarters has occupied a new, leased office building at 588 Three Mile Road, N.W., since 1988.



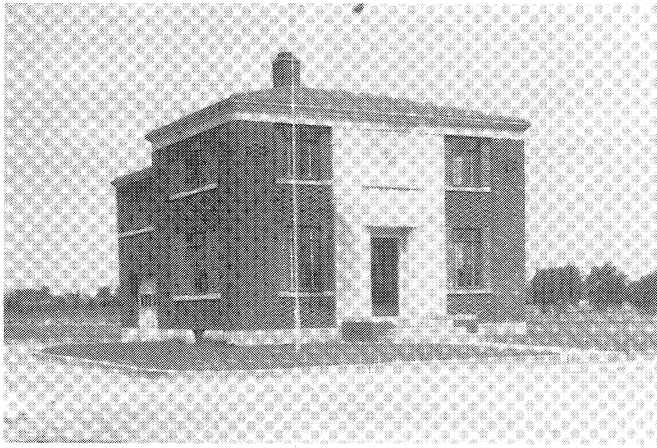
**ROCKFORD POST**  
**(Post 61)**

345 Northland Drive. N.E.. Rockford. 49341

The Grand Rapids Troop Headquarters which had served the State Police since 1917 was abandoned in 1921. A small motorcycle detachment opened south of Grand Rapids in Grandville, but this post closed in 1925. A small post also opened at Rockford in 1921. It may have operated as a seasonal summer post, with troopers assigned to patrol farms, orchards, and tourist routes. The Rockford Post was apparently abandoned during the late 1920's.

The current district system was established in 1931. Rockford was chosen as a permanent post and Sixth District Headquarters in 1932. From a converted house, the Rockford Post and Sixth District Headquarters moved into a new, brick, WPA building in 1936. Sixth District Headquarters moved to Grand Rapids in 1979 and the Rockford Post assumed freeway patrol duties for the Grand Rapids metro area.

The Rockford Post now serves as the regional dispatch center for the Sixth District.



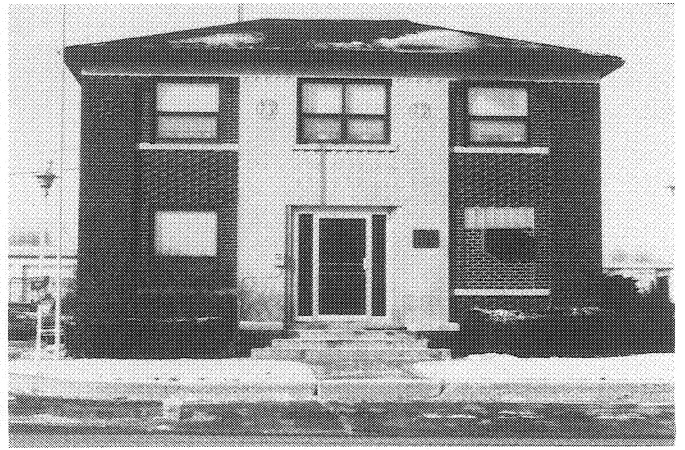
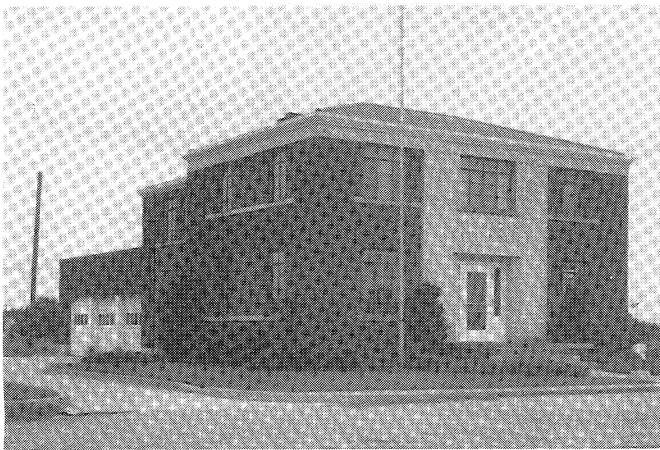
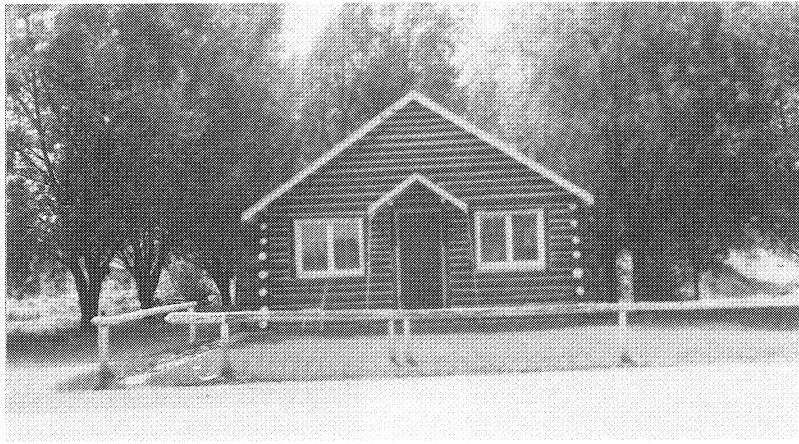
**REED CITY POST**  
**(Post 62)**

825 S. Chestnut Street, Reed City, 49677

Bank robberies were a major concern in small towns and rural villages during the Great Depression. To provide security, a summer post was first opened in Reed City in 1930 by Tpr. George Milligan, who was later joined by Tpr. Ken White. The post was a rented apartment above the Reed City Bank at the corner of US-131 and Upton Avenue.

Reed City became a permanent post the following year. Troopers Quentin Dean and Daniel Wurzburg moved into the office above the bank.

As part of the department's major post-building program in conjunction with the Works Progress Administration (WPA), work was started on a new post during the memorably harsh winter of 1935-36. The present two-story, brick, WPA post/barracks was opened in 1936.



**MT. PLEASANT POST**  
**(Post 63)**

1011 N. Mission Street, Mt. Pleasant, 48858

The development of major oil fields near Mt. Pleasant in the early 1930's provided impetus for the department to establish a post in the area. Rising crime rates, traffic snarls, and a disastrous oil well explosion and fire exposed the lack of available police protection.

A sub-post was established in Alma in 1932 but closed in 1933 due to state budget cuts. When funds became available to re-open the post in 1934, the department chose Mt. Pleasant as a better site. Tpr. Ray Sweet worked out of the Isabella County Sheriff's office for most of the year. In the Fall of 1934, Troopers Sweet and Bloomquist moved into a new, one-story, log building which had been originally designed as a beer garden when prohibition ended. The owner had trouble getting a liquor license, so he finished the building to rent to the State Police. Cpl. Frank Walker was soon assigned as the first Mt. Pleasant post commander.

The present brick, WPA building was opened in 1936, and the old post became a restaurant. The post now serves all of Isabella County and half of Midland and Clare counties. Located at the center of the post area is the Saginaw Chippewa Reservation and Central Michigan University.





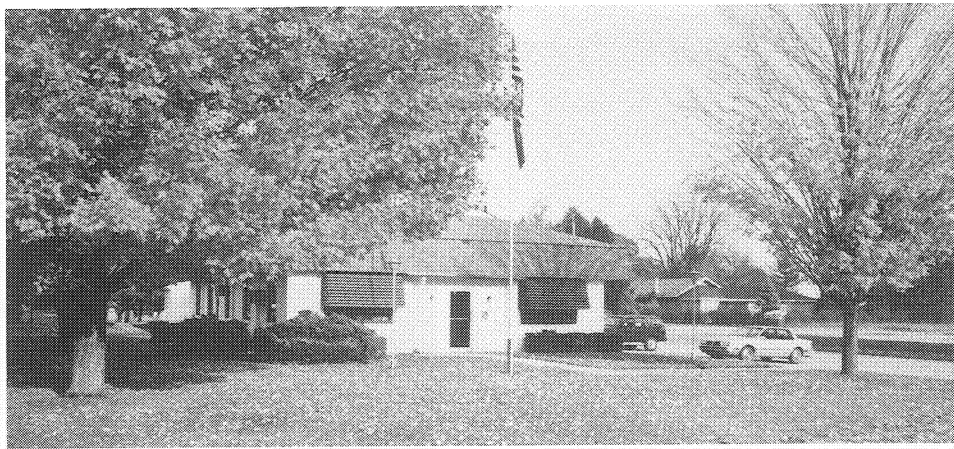
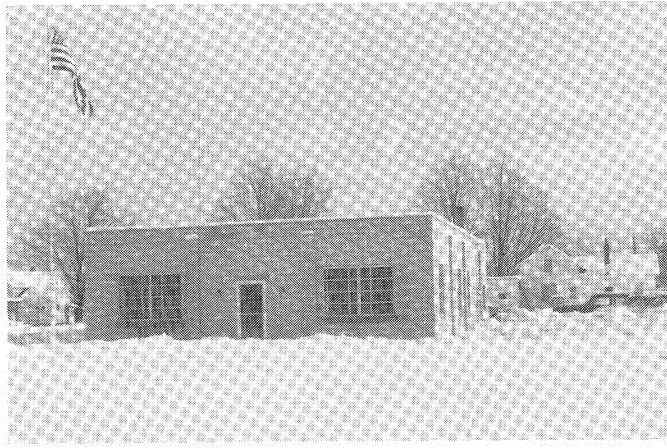
**GRAND HAVEN POST**  
**(Post 64)**

1622 S. Beacon Boulevard, Grand Haven, 49417

The first Grand Haven Post was built in 1926 as a summer detachment to control tourist traffic (estimated to exceed 10,000 vehicles daily) on US-16 and US-31. Local citizens convinced the department to maintain the post permanently and a new, larger structure was erected in front of the original building in May, 1927.

Sgt. Guy Baugh was the first Grand Haven Post commander (1926-1934), and his staff included two corporals and one trooper. Grand Haven's original post area was adjacent to Manistee's in the north and Paw Paw's area to the south. The Grand Haven Post served temporarily as the new Sixth District Headquarters during 1931-1932.

In 1960, the post was relocated to its present site at the intersection of Beacon Boulevard and Dykhouse. The post currently serves all of Ottawa and Muskegon counties. Recent studies show that approximately 60,000 vehicles travel daily through Grand Haven during tourist season.



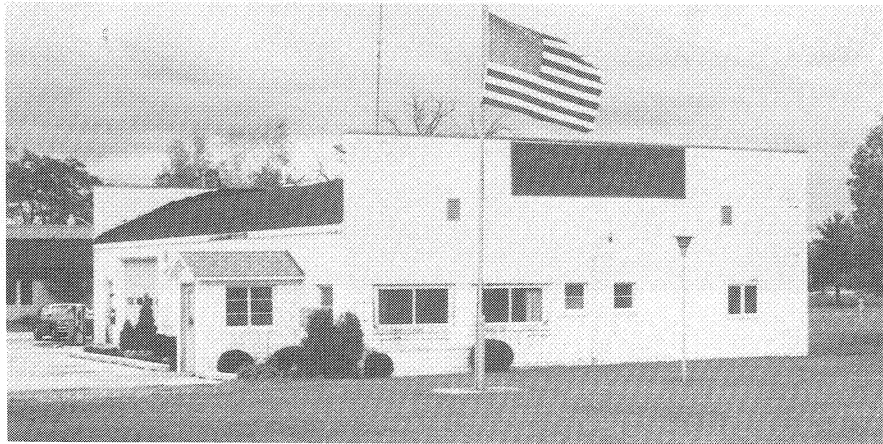
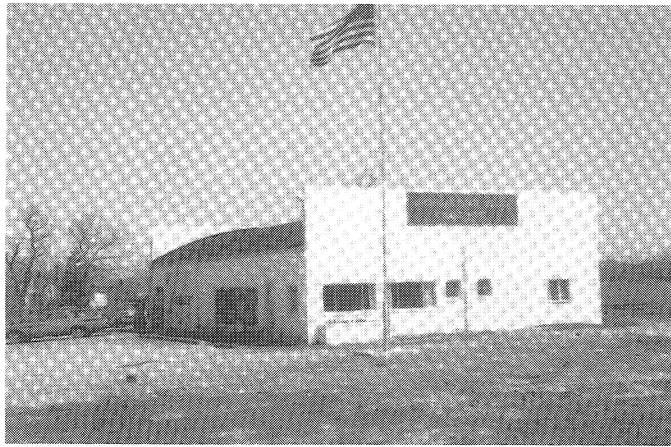
**NEWAYGO POST**  
**(Post 65)**

360 Adams, Newaygo, 49337

January 1, 1958, marks the official opening of the Newaygo Post as the fifth worksite to be established in the Sixth District. The post was located in a building owned by a private organization known as the Newaygo Improvement Corporation.

Until the 1950's, Newaygo County had been patrolled by troopers from the Rockford Post. Local concern over increasing crime, citizen mobility, and traffic problems resulted in a desire on the part of local residents for improved police services. That interest motivated the Improvement Corporation to obtain property and construct the post building, which they made available to the department. Seven years later, on December 28, 1965, the State Police purchased the land and building for \$24,600.

The original contingent assigned to Newaygo consisted of Post Commander Russell Olson and nine other officers. When the Hart Post was opened in the 1960's, the Newaygo Post was relieved of routine responsibilities in Oceana County. Effective January 1, 1989, the Reed City Post conceded their portion of Newaygo County and the Newaygo Post became responsible for the entire county.



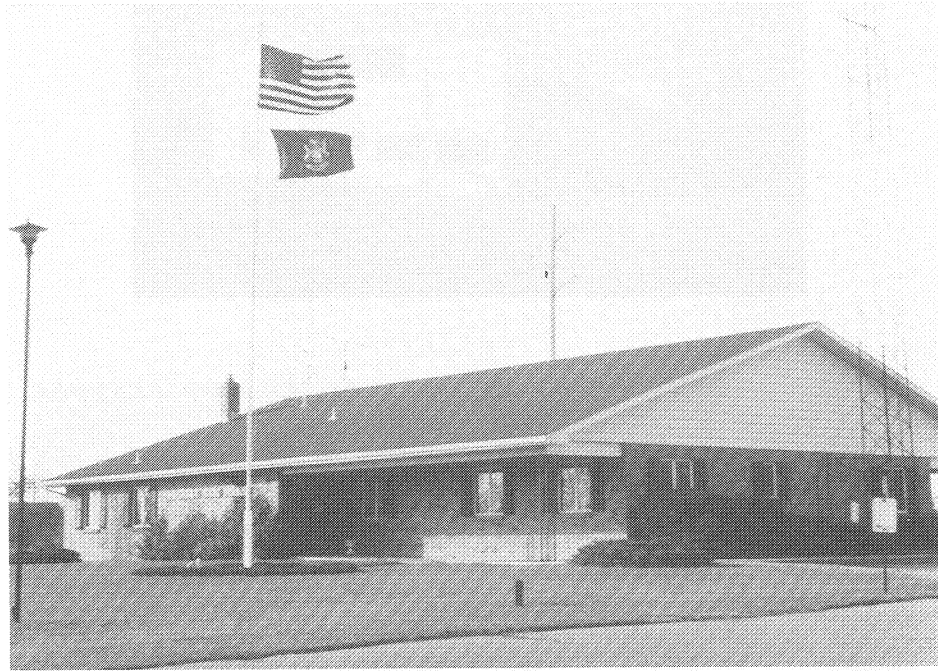
**HART POST**  
**(Post 66)**

1100 Griswold Street, Hart, 49420

The Hart Post is located on Old US-31 on the southeast side of Hart, in the center of Oceana County. In the late 1950's, Sheriff Bill Carr, with several local citizens, started a drive to get a post in Oceana County. The main reason for the request was that Sheriff Carr did not feel that the area was receiving adequate coverage by the State Police. When the group first started, they had property on the south side of Shelby for the post. When the post was established the property was no longer available, so the post was located in Hart.

The Hart Post was opened on October 22, 1966, under the command of Sgt. Jack Bouck. The building was remodeled from an old tractor sales garage and is still being used at this time. The personnel at the post consisted of Sergeant Bouck, one corporal, and eight troopers.

The Hart Post provides service to all of Oceana County and most of Mason County, including the city of Ludington. This includes 49 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and three very popular state parks. There are approximately 55,000 year around residents served by the post; however, during the summer months the population swells to over 150,000, as this is a very popular tourist area.



**LAKEVIEW POST**  
**(Post 67)**

Howard City-Edmore Road, Route 1, Lakeview, 48850

The Lakeview Post was opened February 12, 1974, in a vacant brick building located on North Greenville Road. The post was established in Lakeview to provide more coverage for the area. F/Lt. Edward Holly was assigned as the post commander, along with 11 troopers and four sergeants. Post personnel moved into the current Lakeview Post during 1976. Six of the original 11 troopers assigned are still working at the Lakeview Post. They are Troopers Patrick Coady, Harlan Cole, Ronald Hahn, Arthur Lenon, Page Neve, and Richard Olson.

In 1975, work was being completed on a gas well in the Six Lakes area when a spark ignited and caused an explosion and fire. The fire burned for 16 days. Some of the equipment that was on the well site was buried when the explosion occurred and has never been uncovered. Fortunately, no one was fatally injured.